

**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**



Amend the specification to claim priority to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/804,926 filed April 23, 2001 by deleting the first unnumbered introductory sentence and inserting the paragraph below in its place:

[This application claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. 60/285,976, filed April 23, 2001. ]

-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/285,976 filed April 23, 2001, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/804,926 filed on March 13, 2001 which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/189,333 filed March 14, 2000, which are expressly incorporated by reference in their entirety. --



## Clean Version

### CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/285,976 filed April 23, 2001, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/804,926 filed on March 13, 2001 which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/189,333 filed March 14, 2000, which are expressly incorporated by reference in their entirety.



## PACKAGING SYSTEM FOR TRANSDERMAL DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEMS

### CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/285,976 filed April 23, 2001, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/804,926 filed on March 13, 2001 which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/189,333 filed March 14, 2000, which are expressly incorporated by reference in their entirety.

### Background of the Invention

#### 1. Field of the Invention.

[0001] The present invention relates to stabilizing a drug in a packaged product. More specifically, the present invention relates to a packaging system for the prevention of degradation in pharmaceutical products, particularly controlled release drug delivery devices such as transdermal systems.

#### 2. Description of Related Art.

[0002] The use of transdermal drug delivery systems or "patches" as a means to topically administer a drug is well known. Such systems dissolve or disperse the drug into a carrier composition, such as a polymeric and/or pressure-sensitive adhesive composition, from which the drug is delivered. These transdermal drug delivery systems typically are affixed adhesively to the skin or mucosa of a user, and the drug diffuses at a controlled rate from a polymer reservoir or layer into the skin or mucosa and absorbed into the blood. Such transdermal systems are described, for example, in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,814,168, 4,994,267, 5,474,783, 5,656,286, 5,958,446 and 6,024,976, all of which are expressly incorporated by reference in their entireties.